Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board

Annual Report for 2016-17

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Government of Saskatchewan

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This annual report is also available in electronic format at http://publications.gov.sk.ca.

Letters of Transmittal

Don Morgan, Q.C.
Minister of Education

Her Honour, the Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield,
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

May it Please Your Honour:

I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2017.

Don Morgan

Don Morgan, Q.C.
Minister of Education

Jennifer Shrubsole
Chair, Multitype
Library Board

The Honourable Don Morgan, Q.C.
Minister of Education

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of the Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2017.

Jennifer Shrubsole

Jennifer Shrubsole
Chair, Multitype Library Board

Board Overview

Board Members

The Minister of Education, responsible for libraries, appoints members of the Multitype Library Board (MLB) as outlined in *The Libraries Co-operation Act* (the Act).

2016-17 Board Members

The Board make-up changed significantly in 2016-17 with three resignations and two members' terms expired. There was continuity in the leadership of the Board as Jennifer Shrubsole remained Board Chair for a second year. Ms. Shrubsole led the Board through a renewal process that affirmed the role of Board members and evaluated ongoing programs.

Information Providers

Marilyn Belhumeur, Librarian, Gabriel Dumont Institute, Regina — representing Aboriginal libraries.

Crista Bradley (until May 5, 2016), Program and Information Management Archivist, Dr. John Archer Library, University of Regina, Regina — representing the archive community.

Tim Hutchinson (beginning May 5, 2016), Head, University Archives & Special Collections, University of Saskatchewan Library, Saskatoon — representing the archive community.

Colleen Murphy, Associate University Librarian, University of Regina, Regina — serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Association (SLA).

Post-Secondary Education Library Sector

Rian Misfeldt (beginning May 5, 2016), Director, Library & Testing Services, Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Regina — serving in the position of library director from a post-secondary library or post-secondary library system.

Jennifer Shrubsole, Library Teaching and Learning Coordinator (South), Saskatchewan Polytechnic Library, Moose Jaw Campus, Moose Jaw — serving in the position of one other person employed by a post-secondary library in any capacity.

Provincial Library

Alison Hopkins (beginning October 16, 2015), Provincial Librarian, Regina.

Public Library Sector

Allan Johnson (until January 1, 2017), Director, Southeast Regional Library, Weyburn — serving in the position of a library director from a public library or public library system.

Karen Bonesky (until January 18, 2017), Chinook Regional Library, Morse — serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Trustees' Association.

School Library Sector

Carlene Walter (until May 5, 2016), Saskatoon Public Schools, Saskatoon — serving in the position of a library director from a school library or school library system.

Charlotte Raine (beginning May 5, 2016), Library Learning Coach, Good Spirit School Division, Langenburg — serving in the position of a library director from a school library or school library system.

Karen Melle (until November 16, 2016), School Board Trustee, Holy Family Roman Catholic School Board, Estevan — serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan School Boards Association.

Special Library Sector

Melissa Bennett, Legislative Librarian, Saskatchewan Legislative Library, Regina — serving in the position of a library director from a special library or special library system.

Suzy Bear, Librarian, Prince Albert Parkland Health Region, Prince Albert — serving in the position of one other person employed by a special library in any capacity.

Board Secretariat

Regan Gunningham, Multitype Library Services Coordinator, Provincial Library and Literacy Office.

Jack Ma, Multitype Library Services Coordinator, Provincial Library and Literacy Office.

MLB Overview

Mandate and Role

The Multitype Library Board (MLB) was established by the Act in 1996. Its mandate is to advise and make recommendations to the Minister on the development of the multitype library system and to facilitate the co-operative development of the multitype library system in Saskatchewan. The Board provides a forum for appointed representatives of library sectors and information providers in Saskatchewan to meet and discuss ways in which they can co-operate to enhance their capacity and services.

In a multitype library system, the jurisdictional boundaries and separate administrative structures of libraries and information providers remain intact, but co-operative initiatives and working relationships enable them to collectively acquire information products and develop services that they could not achieve independently.

Partners

The partners in the multitype library system include:

- the public, schools, post-secondary and special library sectors;
- the Provincial Library and Literacy Office (PLLO), which has traditionally played a coordination role in the Saskatchewan library community; and,
- other information providers, such as archives, business resource centres and Aboriginal libraries.

Each partner has a unique role, mandate and client group that it serves. Partners vary in size, structure, governance, facilities, resources, functions and related government ministries. Dialogue facilitated by the MLB can help the partners to understand the nature of their differences as well as their similarities to co-operate more effectively.

Information Providers

Other information providers have a variety of roles, mandates and client groups depending on their organizations. Archivists, for example, bring a wide range of expertise and experiences to a partnership with libraries, which makes their contributions particularly valuable, especially in the area of digital initiatives.

Post-secondary Education Libraries

The role and mandate of post-secondary education libraries are to provide information and services supporting the information needs of students, faculty, researchers and staff of educational institutions, and to educate clients in the use and evaluation of information resources.

Provincial Library

The Act mandates the PLLO to act as secretariat to the MLB and to support the multitype library system through such activities as research, planning, program support and the establishment of policies and procedures.

Public Libraries

The role and mandate of public libraries are to provide people of all ages with equitable access to informational, cultural, recreational and educational materials and services. The public library system provides library services in over 300 branch libraries across Saskatchewan through seven regional library systems, a federated library system in the north and two municipal libraries in the cities of Regina and Saskatoon.

School Libraries

The role of school libraries is to support the learning program of the school and to meet the individual needs and interests of staff and students. School libraries play an integral role in supporting curricula by providing appropriate resources and actively involving students in the location, evaluation and use of information, ideas and resources.

Special Libraries

The role and mandate of special libraries are to provide specialized information services for staff, students or members of a parent organization. Special libraries in Saskatchewan include government, corporate and private libraries, with specialized collections and subject-knowledgeable staff.

Celebrating Multitype in Saskatchewan

The MLB celebrated the 20 year anniversary of the passing of the Act by working with the SLA to plan the Saskatchewan Libraries Conference on May 5-7, 2016 in Saskatoon. The conference theme was *Cooperation Saskatchewan Style*. Susan Baer, former MLB Chair, and Barbara Bulat were conference co-chairs. Current and former board members were also a part of the Conference Executive Committee. The Board contributed to the conference by planning a pre-conference summit and workshop, delivering a session about Board activities and using posters to highlight Board programs.

Library Space Transformation

Library as a place is a critical issue in the digital age. Physical spaces are changing to accommodate collaborative and interactive learning spaces and responding to library users' needs. The concept of a summit on library spaces was suggested by the Multitype Database Licensing Program (MDLP) partners at the 2015 MLB community meeting to address this matter. The Board hosted a summit on library space transformation on May 5, 2016, which was attended by 33 staff members from public, school, special and post-secondary libraries.

Participants listened to speakers of international, national and provincial repute. The morning featured two keynote speakers presenting through Adobe Connect:

- Patrick Deaton, Associate Director, Learning Spaces and Capital Management at North Carolina State University discussed the creation of award winning James B. Hunt Jr. Library. Deaton focused on lessons learned throughout the project planning and implementation process.
- Bill Ptacek, CEO, Calgary Public Library (CPL) discussed the changing nature of the physical library. Ptacek shared information on small renovation projects throughout CPL branches and discussed the impressive plans for a new central library.

The afternoon included presentations and discussion groups on the topics of joint-use facilities, offsite storage for physical collections, innovative use of library spaces and user-centered library design. The afternoon lightning talks and discussions were directed by leaders in the Saskatchewan library community:

- Fabian Harrison (Saskatchewan Polytechnic);
- Alex Juorio (John M. Cuelenaere Public Library);
- Ken Ladd (University of Saskatchewan); and,
- Colleen Murphy (University of Regina).

"Presentations [were] a treat and inspiring… discussions gave me a broader perspective."

-summit participant

MLB Training and Promotion

PLLO staff, in their role as Board secretariat, developed materials and presentations for the conference to showcase Board programs past and present.

- A presentation, entitled, *eResources, Library Toolshed* and *Promotion: Multitype Library Board in 2016* was delivered by PLLO staff. It promoted new Board programs and provided an update on ongoing initiatives.
- Two posters were developed by PLLO staff to promote the MDLP and share highlights from the first 20 years of successful and innovative Board activities.
- A one-day pre-conference workshop was sponsored by the Board. The workshop provided free database training for library staff. Training was delivered by database vendor representatives from Gale, ProQuest, EBSCO and Britannica.

Additional Conference Highlights

The conference featured inspiring presentations from the library community and nationally renowned keynote speakers.

- Joseph Boyden is an award winning, best-selling Canadian author. He is best known for writing about race, history, diversity and First Nations culture. Mr. Boyden's presentation, entitled *Three Day Paddle: My Journey to Becoming an Artist*, featured stories about his family, excerpts from his writing and music from a harmonica and mouth harp. The drumming group, Young Bucks, also opened the presentation with an honour song for Mr. Boyden.
- Lindsay Knight is an award winning hip-hop artist and social activist from Saskatoon. Ms. Knight delivered the Mary Donaldson Memorial Lecture. This thought-provoking lecture series was open to both library staff and the public.
- Stephen Abram is the Executive Director of the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries, author of the popular Stephen's Lighthouse blog and known as a trend watcher. His presentation was entitled, *Making a Difference: Public Libraries*.
- Board Chair, Jennifer Shrubsole, delivered an address at the conference closing. She reaffirmed that libraries in Saskatchewan have long traditions of working together, and the multitype library system continues that legacy.

"Joseph Boyden was excellent. I am very happy that I had the opportunity to listen to him speak about the influence that libraries and teachers have had on his life."

-summit participant

Conference by the Numbers

220
Boyden lecture attendees
178
delegates
53
presenters
31
sessions

Progress in 2016-17

The MLB held five meetings and a summit during 2016-17. Along with celebrating the previous 20 years, the Board also devoted energy to planning for the future. Through the fall 2016, the MLB worked with a facilitator to examine the role of the Board and their current initiatives. The Board developed plans to conduct a more formal review of several activities and to wrap up other initiatives. They also reaffirmed their belief in the multitype library system and the need for a more proactive approach to working on initiatives and working with their committees.

Ongoing Programs

Library Toolshed

The Library Toolshed (https://librarytoolshed.ca/) provides a space for library staff to share, download and comment on library training, programming and promotional resources. All of the materials in the repository are shared using a Creative Commons licence which allows library staff to re-purpose any of the content. This is a joint initiative of Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba and Saskatchewan libraries.

In 2016-17, the Library Toolshed Working Group requested content for the repository on specific themes that resonate with all Western Canadian libraries. The Library Toolshed received many entries on the requested topics; summer reading and truth and reconciliation programming. Saskatchewan content in the repository steadily increased between April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017:

- 28 Saskatchewan library training and promotion documents/multimedia were added to the repository in 2016-17; and,
- Saskatchewan materials received 17,810 page views in 2016-17. This is a 40 per cent increase from the previous year.

Education Bursary

The Maureen Woods Education Bursary continues to promote the growth of professional librarianship in the province. This annual bursary, initiated by the MLB in 1999, awards $5,000 to a student enrolled in a Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) program who agrees to return to work in Saskatchewan upon completion of their degree. The recipient of the 2017 Maureen Woods Education Bursary is Chasity Berast. She is a recent graduate of the University of Alberta's MLIS program and the Program Head for the Library and Information Technology program at Saskatchewan Polytechnic.

Saskatchewan Digital Alliance

The Saskatchewan Digital Alliance (SDA) is a cross-sector, co-operative body that exists to promote and facilitate the development of digital collections in Saskatchewan. The SDA Committee was established by the MLB to develop a locus of knowledge and support that enables the public to find, locate, and utilize Saskatchewan knowledge and information created through co-operative Saskatchewan digitization initiatives. The group's previous work includes the directed project,

The Saskatchewan War Experience, as well as consulting on the Saskatchewan History Online (SHO) project.

The SDA faced several challenges throughout 2016-17 as committee members retired and the Chair stepped down. The Committee is contemplating new approaches to guide provincial digitization efforts and promote province-wide digitization initiatives. They will host a meeting with provincial stakeholders in 2017-18 to steer their program renewal efforts.

Multitype Database Licensing Program

The MDLP is the longest running program of the Board. The MDLP is a province-wide program in which libraries pool funds to purchase access to electronic information resources (see Appendix A for a list of partners). Libraries participating in this bulk purchasing and cost sharing program are able to access online resources they could not otherwise afford to subscribe to on their own.

The MDLP supports equitable access to online library resources for all Saskatchewan residents, including those who live in small urban, rural and remote areas. Through the MDLP, libraries are helping to close the digital divide, and are working to ensure that all citizens have access to reputable information, a necessity for education, work and leisure in a global, knowledge-based economy.

The weakened Canadian dollar and increasing database costs coupled with MDLP partners' financial pressures precipitated the need for a contribution reduction. The MDLP reduced the cost of the program in 2016-17 by cancelling several products with a high cost per use and by providing two optional databases for partners to select. Each partner received an eight per cent decrease in their financial contribution and the additional shortfall was covered by the MDLP Exchange Rate Fund.

MDLP Highlights

- $566,033 was the total cost of the MDLP Core Collection in 2016-17 with the projected value of the Collection far exceeding the cost. The Core Collection provided $9,830,031 in projected economic value to Saskatchewan users.
  - By assigning a retail value of $25 to each full-text article retrieved from the database, there is a projected value of $9,123,025.
  - By assigning a retail value of $2 to each newspaper issue read, there is a projected value of $707,006.
- 353,503 newspaper issues from Library PressDisplay/PressReader were read in 2016, a 37.2 per cent increase from 2015.

Cost Per Use

- 1,057,617 database searches were completed at a cost per use of 53 cents.
- 364,921 full-text articles were retrieved at a cost per use of 78 cents.
- 353,503 newspaper issues were read at a cost per use of 25 cents.

MDLP Review Subcommittee

Partners in the MDLP brought a resolution forward at their April 2016 Annual General Meeting (AGM) to review the program structure. A review subcommittee with representation from all four library sectors was formed and began meeting in June 2016. The Subcommittee created and distributed a survey to MDLP partners to realize the scope of the project. The survey feedback was used to develop a report with recommendations from the Subcommittee and MDLP partners will use this information to make decisions about the future of the program at the May 2017 AGM.

Webinar Series

The MDLP webinar series launched in 2015 and it proved more popular in 2016-17 with increased attendance. The webinars are designed to promote multitype electronic resources to Saskatchewan library staff and teachers. The PLLO staff, Ann Liang (Saskatchewan Polytechnic) and Michelle Giese (Saskatchewan Legislative Library) presented webinars for this series. Each webinar was recorded and made available to the library and teaching community through the Library Toolshed and the MLB website.

- 182 participants registered for webinars in 2016-17, which represents a 26 per cent increase from the previous year.
- 119 participants attended webinars in 2016-17, which is a 31 per cent increase from the previous year.
- Archived webinars received 2,396 page views in 2016-17, and this represents a 14 per cent decrease from the previous year.

Discontinued Programs

Saskatchewan eBook Initiative

The Saskatchewan eBook Initiative was a pilot project to digitize Saskatchewan books that concluded in March 2017. The program's purpose was to raise the profile of Saskatchewan authors and publishers through greater exposure to librarians, educators, students, library patrons and the general public. The program required more oversight than initially expected and continuation was untenable.

The eBooks in this collection remain available to all MDLP partners through Library2Go (https://saskatchewan.overdrive.com) and in the National Network for Equitable Library Service's collection. The initiative digitized 10 new titles between April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017 bringing the total collection to 20 titles. The collection includes children's, young adult and adult fiction and non-fiction titles. These in-demand book titles had 387 electronic checkouts and 134 holds placed between April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017.

Saskatchewan Library Staff Directory

The online directory of Saskatchewan library staff was a legacy project that originated as a print directory in 1971. In 2002, the print directory which included library contact information and key staff members was moved to a database that was publicly available on the MLB website. Board members decided that there was no longer a need to maintain this staff directory and it will be taken offline in 2017. The Board will continue to host and maintain a directory of Saskatchewan libraries.

For More Information

Information on the Multitype Library Board is available at http://sils.sk.ca.campusguides.com.

Contact the Board's secretariat:
Provincial Library and Literacy Office
409A Park Street
REGINA SK S4N 5B2

Tel: (306) 787-2976
Fax: (306) 787-2029

Appendix A: MDLP Partners (Financial Contributors)

Post-Secondary Education Libraries

- Briercrest Family of Schools, Archibald Library
- Gabriel Dumont Institute Library
- RCMP Learning Centre
- Saskatchewan Polytechnic Library
- St. Peter's Abbey and College Library
- University of Regina, Dr. John Archer Library
- University of Saskatchewan, University Library

Provincial Library and Literacy Office

Public Libraries

- Chinook Regional Library
- Lakeland Library Region
- Pahkisimon Nuye?áh Library System
- Palliser Regional Library
- Parkland Regional Library
- Regina Public Library
- Saskatoon Public Library
- Southeast Regional Library
- Wapiti Regional Library
- Wheatland Regional Library

School Libraries

- All Kindergarten to Grade 12 school divisions and First Nations schools in Saskatchewan through the Ministry of Education

Special Libraries

- Law Society of Saskatchewan, Library
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Government Relations
- Ministry of Health, Policy and Planning
- Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety
- Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, Health Sciences Library
- Resource Centre for Sport, Culture and Recreation
- Saskatchewan Legislative Library
- Saskatchewan Research Council, Information Services
- Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation, Stewart Resource Centre
- Saskatoon Health Region
- SaskCentral